

ME A

- own heart may tell you that there is something amiss, nor over-scrupulously pursue it when you are not conscious to yourself of notable failings. *Taylor's Guide to a Penitent.*
- The rains were but preparatory in some measure, and the violence and conflagration of the deluge depended upon the disruption of the great abyss. *Barnet's Theory of the Earth.*
8. Proportionate time; musical time.
- Amaryllis breathes thy secret pains,
And thy fond heart beats measure to thy strains. *Prior.*
9. Motion harmonically regulated.
- My legs can keep no measure in delight,
When my poor heart no measure keeps in grief:
Therefore no dancing, girl, some other sport. *Shakespeare.*
- As when the stars in their ethereal race,
At length have roll'd around the liquid space,
From the same point of heav'n their course advance,
And move in measures of their former dance. *Dryden.*
10. A stately dance. This sense is, I believe, obsolete.
- Wooling, wedding, and repenting, is as a Scotch jig, a measure and a cinque pace; the first suit is hot and hasty, like a Scotch jig, and full as fantastical; the wedding mannerly, modest as a measure, full of state and anchoury. *Shakespeare.*
- Now are our brows bound with victorious wreaths,
Our stern alarms chang'd to merry meetings,
Our dreadful marches to delightful measures. *Shakespeare.*
11. Moderation; not excess.
- O love, be moderate, allay thy ecstacy;
In measure rein thy joy, scant this excess;
I feel too much thy blessing, make it less,
For fear I surfeit. *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*
- Hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure. *Jsa. vi. 14.*
12. Limit; boundary. In the same sense is
- Μέτρον ἰσίου δεκάδας τριάδας δύο, μέτρον ἑκατάς
ἡμετέρας Βουλῆς ἡμετέρας ἀδελφίας.
Ἀρχιεπισκοπὴν τῆς πόλεως.
- Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days what it is, that I may know how frail I am. *Psal.*
13. Any thing adjusted.
- He only lived according to nature, the other by ill customs, and measures taken by other mens eyes and tongues. *Taylor's Holy Living.*
- Christ reveals to us the measures according to which God will proceed in dispensing his rewards. *Snalbridge's Sermon.*
14. Syllables metrically numbered; metre.
- I addressed them to a lady, and affected the softness of expression, and the smoothness of measure, rather than the height of thought. *Dryden.*
- The numbers themselves, though of the heroic measure, should be the smoothest imaginable. *Pope.*
15. Tune; proportionate notes.
- The joyous nymphs and light-foot fairies,
Which thither came to hear their music sweet,
And to the measures of their melodies
Did learn to move their nimble-shifting feet. *Spenser.*
16. Mean of action; mean to an end.
- His majesty found what wrong measures he had taken in the conferring that trust, and lamented his error. *Clarendon.*
17. To have hard measure; to be hardly dealt by.
- To MEASURE. *v. a.* [measurer, French; *mesures*, Latin.]
- Archidamus having received from Philip, after the victory of Chereonea, proud letters, writ back, that if he measured his own shadow he would find it no longer than it was before his victory. *Bacon's Apophth.*
2. To pass through; to judge of extent by marching over.
- A true devoted pilgrim is not weary
To measure kingdoms with his feeble steps. *Shakespeare.*
- I'll tell thee all my whole device
At the park-gate; and therefore haste away,
For we must measure twenty miles to-day. *Shakespeare.*
- The vessel ploughs the sea,
And measures back with speed her former way. *Dryden.*
3. To judge of quantity or extent, or greatness.
- Great are thy works, Jehovah; infinite
Thy pow'r! What thought can measure thee, or tongue
Relate thee? *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vii.*
4. To adjust; to proportion.
- To secure a contented spirit, measure your desires by your fortunes, not your fortunes by your desires. *Taylor.*
- Silver is the instrument as well as measure of commerce; and 'tis by the quantity of silver he gets for any commodity in exchange that he measures the value of the commodity he sells. *Locke.*
5. To mark out in stated portions.
- What thou feel'st is that portion of eternity which is called time, measured out by the sun, and reaching from the beginning of the world to its consummation. *Addison's Spectator.*
6. To allot or distribute by measure.

M E C

- With what measure you mete, it shall be measured to you again.
- MEASURELESS. *adj.* [from *measure*.] Immenſe; immeaſurable.
- He ſhut up the meaſureleſs content. *Shakespeare.*
- MEASUREMENT. *n. f.* [from *measure*.] Meaſuration; act of meaſuring.
- MEASURER. *n. f.* [from *measure*.] One that meaſures.
- MEASURING. *adj.* [from *measure*.] It is applied to a caſt not to be diſtinguiſhed in its length from another but by meaſuring.
- When luſty ſhepherds throw
The bar by turns, and none the reſt out-go
So far, but that the beſt are meaſ'ring caſts,
Their emulation and their paſtime laſts. *Wallar.*
- MEAT. *n. f.* [met, French.]
1. Fleſh to be eaten.
- To his father he ſent ten the aſſes laden with corn, and bread, and meat, for his father by the way. *Gen. xlv. 23.*
- Carnivore, and birds of prey, are no good meat; but the reaſon is, rather the choleric nature of thoſe birds than their feeding upon fleſh; for pews and ducks feed upon fleſh, and yet are good meat. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt. No. 850.*
- There was a multitude of exciſes; as, the vectigal macelli, a tax upon meat. *Arbutnot.*
2. Food in general.
- Never words were muſick to thine ear,
And never meat ſweet-favour'd in thy taſte,
Unleſs I ſpoke or car'd. *Shakespeare. Comedy of Errors.*
- Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats; but God ſhall deſtroy both. *I Cor. vi. 13.*
- MEATED. *adj.* [from *meat*.] Fed; foddered.
- Strong oxen and horſes, wel ſhod and wel clad,
Wel meated and uſed. *Tuſſer's Huſb.*
- MEATHE. *n. f.* [medd, Welſh, unde *mede*, meddwi crius ſum.] Drink.
- For drink the grape
She cruſhes, inoffenſive muſt, and meathes
From many a berry. *Milton's Par. Loſt, b. v.*
- MEAZLING. *part.* generally called *mizzling*. See *MIZZLE*.
- The air feels more moiſt when the water is in ſmall than in great drops; in *meazling* and ſoaking rain, than in great ſhowers. *Arbutnot on Air.*
- MECHANICAL. *adj.* [mechanicus, Lat. *mechanicus*, French; from *μηχανή*.]
1. Mean; ſervile; of mean occupation.
- Know you not, being mechanical, you ought not walk upon a labouring day, without the ſign of your profeſſion? *Shak.*
- Hang him, mechanical fat-butler rogue; I will ſtare him out of his wits; I will hew him with my cudgel. *Shakespeare.*
- Mechanick ſlaves,
With greaſy aprons, rules, and hammers, ſhall
Uplift us to the view. *Shakespeare. Ant. and Cleopatra.*
- To make a god, a hero, or a king,
Deſcend to a mechanical dialect. *Reſtaurman.*
2. Conſtructed by the laws of mechanics.
- Many a fair precept in poetry is, like a ſeeming demonſtration in mathematics, very ſpecious in the diagram, but failing in the mechanical operation. *Dryden.*
- The main buſineſs of natural philoſophy, is to argue from phenomena without feigning hypotheses, and to deduce cauſes from effects till we come to the very firſt cauſe, which certainly is not mechanical; and not only to unfold the mechanism of the world, but chiefly to reſolve theſe, and ſuch like queſtions. *Newton's Opticks.*
3. Skilled in mechanics.
- MECHANICK. *n. f.* A manufacturer; a low workman.
- Do not bid me
Diſmiſs my ſoldiers, or capitate *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*
- Again with Rome's mechanicks.
- A third proves a very heavy philoſopher, who poſſibly would have made a good mechanick, and have done well enough at the uſeful philoſophy of the ſpade or the anvil. *South.*
- MECHANICKS. *n. f.* [mechanica, Latin.]
- Dr. Wallis defines *mechanicks* to be the geometry of motion, a mathematical ſcience, which ſhews the effects of powers, or moving forces, ſo far as they are applied to engines, and demonſtrates the laws of motion. *Harris.*
- The rudiments of geography, with ſomething of *mechanicks*, may be eaſily conveyed into the minds of acute young perſons. *Watt's Improvement of the Mind.*
- Salomoneus was a great proficient in *mechanicks*, and inventor of a veſſel which imitated thunder. *Brome.*
- MECHANICALLY. *adv.* [from *mechanick*.] According to the laws of mechanism.
- They ſuppoſe even the common animals that are in being, to have been formed *mechanically* from the reſt. *Ray.*
- Later philoſophers feign hypotheses for explaining all things *mechanically*, and reſet other cauſes to metaphyſicks. *Newton.*

MECHANICALNESS.

M E D

- MECHANICALNESS. *n. f.* [from *mechanick*.]
1. Agreeableneſs to the laws of mechanism.
2. Meannels.
- MECHANICIAN. *n. f.* [mechanicien, French.] A man profeſſing or ſtudying the conſtruction of machines.
- Some were figured like male, others like female ſcrews, as mechanicians ſpeak. *Boyle.*
- MECHANISM. *n. f.* [mechanisme, French.]
1. Action according to mechanic laws.
- After the chyle has paſſed through the lungs, nature continues her uſual *mechanism*, to convert it into animal ſubſtances. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
- He acknowledges nothing beſides matter and motion; ſo that all muſt be performed either by *mechanism* or accident, either of which is wholly unaccountable. *Bentley.*
2. Conſtruction of parts depending on each other in any complicated fabrick.
- MECHOACAN. *n. f.*
- Mechoacan* is a large root, twelve or fourteen inches long, and of the thickneſs of a man's wrift, uſually divided into two branches at the bottom: what we ſee of it is commonly cut tranſverſely into ſlices for the convenience of drying; it's firſt introduction into Europe was about two hundred and twenty years ago: it is brought from the province of *Mechoacan* in South America, from whence it has its name: the plant which affords it is a ſpecies of bindweed, and its ſtalks, which are angular, and full of a refinous milky juice, climb upon every thing which ſtands near them: the root in powder is a gentle and mild purgative. *Hill's Mat. Med.*
- MEDICINUM. *n. f.* [medicina, Latin.]
1. Expreſſed juice of poppy.
2. The firſt excrement of children.
- Infants new-born have a *medicinium*, or fort of dark-coloured excrement in the bowels. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
- MEDAL. *n. f.* [medaille, Fr. probably from *metallum*, Lat.]
1. An ancient coin.
- The Roman medals were their current money: when an action deſerved to be recorded on a coin, it was ſtamped, and iſſued out of the mint. *Addiſon's Guard. No. 60.*
2. A piece ſtamped in honour of ſome remarkable performance.
- MEDALLICK. *n. f.* [from *medal*.] Pertaining to medals.
- You will never, with all your *medallick* eloquence, perſuade Eugenius, that it is better to have a pocketful of Otho's than of Jacobus's. *Addiſon on ancient Medals.*
- MEDALLION. *n. f.* [medaillon, Fr.] A large antique ſtamp or medal.
- Medallions*, in reſpect of the other coins, were the ſame as modern medals in reſpect of modern money. *Addiſon.*
- MEDALLIST. *n. f.* [medalliste, Fr.] A man ſkilled or curious in medals.
- In the language of a *medallist*, you are not to look upon a cabinet of medals as a treaſure of money, but of knowledge. *Addiſon on ancient Medals.*
- TO MEDDLE. *v. n.* [meddlen, Dutch.]
1. To have to do; in this ſenſe it is always followed by *with*.
- It is reported that caſſia, when gathered, is put into the ſkins of beaſts newly ſkayed, which breeding worms, they devour the pith and marrow, and ſo make it hollow; but *meddle* not with the back, becauſe it is bitter. *Bacon.*
- With the power of it upon the ſpirits of men we will only meddle. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt. No. 945.*
- I have thus far been an upright judge, not meddling with the deſign nor diſpoſition. *Dryden.*
2. To interpoſe; to act in any thing.
- For my part, I'll not meddle nor make any farther. *Shak.*
- In every turn of ſtate, without meddling on either ſide, he has always been favourable to merit. *Dryden.*
- The civil lawyers have pretended to determine concerning the ſucceſſion of princes; but, by our author's principles, have meddled in a matter that belongs not to them. *Locke.*
- What haſt thou to do to meddle with the affairs of my family? to diſpoſe of my eſtate, old boy? *Arbutnot.*
3. To interpoſe or intervene impertinently or officiouſly.
- Why ſhould'ſt thou meddle to thy hurt. *2 Kings xiv. 10.*
- It is an honour for a man to caſe from ſtrife; but every fool will be meddling. *Prav. xx. 3.*
- This meddling prieſt longs to be found a fool. *Reve.*
- Let me ſhake off th' intrusive cares of day,
And lay the meddling ſenſes all aſide. *Thomſon's Winter.*
- TO MEDDLE. *v. a.* [from *medſer*, Fr.] To mix; to mingle.
- Obſolete.
- A meddled ſtate of the orders of the goſpel, and the ceremonies of popery, is not the beſt way to baniſh popery. *Hooker, b. iv.*
- He that had well ycon'd his lere,
Thus meddled his talk with many a teare. *Spenser.*
- ME'DDLER. *n. f.* [from *meddle*.] One who buſies himſelf with things in which he has no concern.
- Do not drive away ſuch as bring thee information, as *meddlers*, but accept of them in good part. *Bacon.*
- This may be applied to thoſe that aſſume to themſelves

M E D

- the merits of other mens ſervices, *meddlers*, boaſters, and impertinents. *L'Eſtrange.*
- ME'DDLESOME. *adj.* Intermeddling: as, a *meddlesome*, buſy body. *Ainſ.*
- MEDIASTINE. *n. f.* [French; *mediſtinum*, Latin.] The ſtriated body about which the guts are convolved.
- None of the membranes which inveſt the inſide of the breaſt but may be the ſeat of this diſeaſe, the *mediaſtine* as well as the pleura. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
- TO MEDIATE. *v. n.* [from *medius*, Latin.]
1. To interpoſe as an equal friend to both parties; to act indifferently between contending parties; to intercede.
- The corruption of manners in the world, we ſhall find owing to ſome *mediating* ſchemes that offer to comprehend the different intereſts of ſin and religion. *Rogers.*
2. To be between two.
- By being crowded, they exclude all other bodies that before *mediated* between the parts of their body. *Digby.*
- TO MEDIATE. *v. a.*
1. To form by mediation.
- The earl made many profeſſions of his deſire to interpoſe, and *mediate* a good peace between the nations. *Clarendon.*
- I poſſeſs chemiſts and corpſcularians of advantages by the confederacy I am *mediating* between them. *Boyle.*
2. To limit by ſomething in the middle.
- They ſtyled a double ſtep, that is, the ſpace from the elevation of one foot to the ſame foot ſet down again, *mediated* by a ſtep of the other foot a pace equal to five feet. *Holder on Time.*
- MEDIATE. *adj.* [mediat, French; *medius*, Latin.]
1. Interpoſed; intervening.
- Soon the *mediate* clouds ſhall be diſpell'd;
The ſun ſhall ſoon be face to face beheld. *Prior.*
2. Middle; between two extremes.
- Anxious we hover in a *mediate* ſtate,
Betwixt infinity and nothing. *Prior.*
2. Acting as a means. Unuſual.
- The moſt important care of a new and vigorous king, was his marriage for *mediate* eſtabliſhment of the royal line. *Warton's Life of Buckingham.*
- MEDIAVELY. *adv.* [from *mediate*.] By a ſecondary cauſe; in ſuch a manner that ſomething acts between the firſt cauſe and the laſt effect.
- God worketh all things amongſt us *mediately* by ſecondary means; the which means of our ſafety being ſhipping and ſea-forces, are to be eſteemed as his gifts, and then only available and beneficial when he vouchſafeth his grace to uſe them aright. *Raleigh's Eſſays.*
- Pefilient contagion is propagated immediately by converſing with infected perſons, and *mediately* by peſtilent ſeminaries propagated through the air. *Harvey on Conſumptions.*
- MEDIATION. *n. f.* [mediation, French, from *medius*, Lat.]
1. Interpoſition; intervention; agency between two parties, praſticed by a common friend.
- Some nobler token I have kept apart
For Livia and Octavia, to induce
Their mediation. *Shakespeare. Antony and Cleopatra.*
- Noble offices thou may'ſt effect
Of mediation, after I am dead,
Between his greatneſs and thy other brethren. *Shakespeare.*
- The king taught unto them to compoſe thoſe troubles between him and his ſubjects; they accordingly interpoſed their *mediation* in a round and princely manner. *Bacon.*
2. Agency; an intervenient power.
- The paſſions have their reſidence in the ſenſitive appetite: for inſamuch as man is a compound of fleſh as well as ſpirit, the foul, during its abode in the body, does all things by the *mediation* of theſe paſſions. *South's Sermon.*
- It is utterly unconceivable, that inanimate brute matter, without the *mediation* of ſome immaterial being, ſhould operate upon other matter without mutual contact. *Bentley.*
3. Interceſſion; entreaty for another.
- MEDIATOR. *n. f.* [mediator, French.]
1. One that intervenes between two parties.
- You had found by experience the trouble of all mens conſcience, and for all matters to yourſelf, as a *mediator* between them and their foreigner. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*
2. An interceſſor; an entreator for another; one who uſes his influence in favour of another.
- It is againſt the ſenſe of the law, to make ſaints or angels to be *mediators* between God and them. *Stillington.*
3. One of the characters of our bleſſed Saviour.
- Man's friend, his *mediator*, his deſign'd,
Both ranſom and redeemer voluntary. *Milton.*
- MEDIATORIAL. *adj.* [from *mediator*.] Belonging to a *mediator*.
- MEDIATORY. *s.* diator.
- All other effects of Chriſt's *mediatorial* office are accounted for from the truth of his reſurrection. *Fiddes's Sermons.*
- MEDIATORSHIP. *n. f.* [from *mediator*.] The office of a *mediator*.
- MEDIA'TRIX. *n. f.* [mediat, Lat.] A female mediator. *Ainſ.*
- ME'DIC.